

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 372

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CORRECTED COPY (FOR PARA #3)

E.O. 116652 GDS

TAGS: XM CI

SUBJECT: CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: SANTIAGO 3430

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ROGERS

1. REF REFTEL'S PARA 3 I DO NOT SEE FRASER'S SUPPORT FOR
MY HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT ASSUGGESTING ANY DILUTION OF
HIS CONCERN. INSTEAD, I THINK HE WAS PLEASED THAT WE
WERE ABLE TO MOVE THE MULTILATERAL CONSIDERATION OF THE
QUESTION A NOTCH FORWARD, BY INSURING THAT THE COMMISSION'S
REPORT NOT BE PASSED BY IN SILENCE, AND BY SPEAKING OUT
OURSELVES ON THE MATTER. THIS, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT,
WITH HIM AND HIS STAFF CHEERING US ON, WE NEGOTIATED A
FIRMER FINAL RESOLUTION THAN THE COSTA RICANS ORIGINALLY
PUT FORWARD, EXPLAINS HIS POSITION.

2. THE MODERATE AND FORTHCOMING DEMANOR OF THE CHILEAN
DELEGATION, AND THEEXTENDED CORRIDOR CONVERSATION WHICH
SERGIO DIAZ HAD WITH FRASER, ALSO HELPED CONSIDERABLY.
DIAZ PROMISED REAL CHANG SOON.

3. IN SHORT -- THE CHILEANS AND THE USG-- MADE SOME
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PROGRESS WITH FRASER. THIS IS TO BE EXPECTED BECAUSE

FRASER IS A BASICALLY DECENT AND REASONABLE MAN, AND IS
CONSIDERABLYMORE INTERESTED IN SEEING IMPROVEMENT IN
HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE THAN IN PERSONAL POSTURING. HE
THINKS, RIGHTLY, THAT THE USG HAS MOVED IN THE RIGHT
DIRECTION BY SEPAKING OUT FOR THE OAS COMISSION. HE
REGARDS THE COMMISSION AS AN IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT FOR
CONSTRUCTIVE CHANGE, IN CHILE AND ELSEWHERE. AND HE
THINKS--OR THOUGHT-- THAT THE CHILEANS WERE SINCERE IN
THEIR PROMISES OF IMPROVEMENT.

4. BUT HOPES MAY NOW BE DASHED BY THE LATEST REPORTING
OF REPRESSION OUT OF SANTIAGO. IF SO, IT WILL BE VERY
DIFFICULT TO BUILD UP ANY SENSE OF CONFIDENCE WITH
FRASER THE NEXT TIME.

5. BY REPEATING THIS CABLE TO WASHINGTON, I AM ASKING
AMBASSADOR RYAN TO CONSIDER SAYING AS MUCH TO TRUCCO
NEXT TIME HE SEES HIM.

6. SERGIO DIAZ, AT MY SUGGESTION, SPENT SOME TIME WITH
FRASER DURING THE MEETING. CARVAJAL TALKED WITH HIM
BRIEFLY, BOTH PROMISED THAT THE NEW REGIME AT THE MINISTRY
OF JUSTICE WOULD GENERATE REAL PROGRESS ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS
FRONT. IN REPLY TO BOTH, FRASER SAID, "I AM PLEASED TO
HEAR ALL THIS. MY COMMITTEE HAS BEEN PUBLISHING A LOT
OF BAD NEWS ABOUT SOME GOOD NEWS ABOUT CHILE." THE POINT
OF COURSE, IS THAT WE MADE SOME REAL PROGRESS WITH FRASER.
BUT IF CHPLE FAILS TO LIVE UP TO THE PROMISES WHICH THE
CHILEANS HAVE MADE TO FRASER, THEN IT WILL BE EVER SO MUCH
MORE DIFFICULT TO CONVINCE HIM AND THE OTHERS IN CONGRESS
CONCERNED WITH THE QUESTION THAT THERE IS ANY
HOPE FOR THIS REGIME.

7. GEORGE LISTER WILL PREPARE A FULL REPORT FOR YOU ON
THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AT THE OASGA, INCLUDING THE DIAZ
AND CARVAJAL CONVERSATIONS WITH FRASER.

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